Worthy Sir,

6*

IT cannot be unknown to you, what great Benefit the Church of God hath reaped by the Care of learned men in publiſhing the holy Scriptures according to the beſt Copies in the Original and other learned Tongues, with the moſt ancient and approved Tranſlations which have been of greateſt Authority and Uſe, and although among others, thoſe famous Editions of the *Complutenſe*, *Antwerp*, and the late *Paris* Bibles be juſtly had in high eſteem and Veneration, yet without any derogation from the juſt praiſe of the Publiſhers, it may be truly ſaid that much may be added to make the Editions more compleat and uſeful, by the Diligence of others, and yet the price very much leſſened, whereby they may become more common and fit for Private Libraries. To this end there is a Deſcription of a more perfect Edition, then any hitherto extant (as we conceive) drawn up, with a Specimen thereof, which as it hath been approved by the moſt Judicious and learned men of this Church; ſo in regard the Charge will exceed the ability of a private Purſe, it hath been thought fit to deſire the aſſiſtance of ſuch noble and publick Spirited perſons, as are able to advance Moneys towards the Printing, who may receive Copies according to the Sums by them expended, wherein as diverſe Perſons of Worth have already ſubſcribed and promiſed conſiderable Sums, amounting to above a third part of the Charge, ſo it is hoped, that others to whom it ſhall be offered, will be ready both by their own examples according to their abilities, and by ſtirring up ſuch well-affected perſons as they are acquainted with, to further a Work ſo much tending to the Glory of God, the publick good of Religion and Learning, and the Honour of our Nation. To this purpoſe alſo Propoſitions are drawn up, which with the ſaid Deſcription, and a form of Subſcription are herewith ſent you, to which you are deſired out of your Zeal to the publike Good to procure what Subſcriptions you can. The Form you ſee is conditional; and tyes no man to the payment of any thing till the full Sum be ſubſcribed, and care ſhall be taken to ſecure the Copies to the Subſcribers in ſuch a Way as by advice of Councel on the behalf of the Subſcribers ſhall be thought reaſonable and juſt. There are divers imployed to this end in diverſe parts [redacted], and ſo hopeful a progreſſe is made, that we doubt not within a few Moneths, but that there will be good Encouragement to go on, and to prepare for the Work. For we cannot believe any Gentleman will be backward to advance to ſo noble a Work, conſidering that all ſhall be put into the Hands of a Perſon of known Worth and Integrity, and ſhall be paid by the Subſcribers, only by degrees, as the Work goes on, and that they ſhall receive Copies of a greater value then what is laid out. It is deſired that the ſeveral Subſcriptions may be returned by the firſt of *April* next, if it may be, or otherwiſe as ſoon as conveniently you can, to

for Mr Dr D. *Walton*, at D. *William Fullers* houſe in S. *Giles Cripplegate* Church-yard, to whom you may likewiſe direct your Letters, if there ſhall be any other occaſion to ſend to us: We need not ſay to thoſe which aim at the publick Good, that the Work will recompence the Pains of all that ſhall promote it, of which yet we are very confident. Thus hoping you will uſe your beſt Endeavours to advance ſo pious a Deſigne, and that the Author of thoſe Sacred Volumes will bleſſe your pains and ours with anſwerable Succeſſe, We commit you to his keeping, and reſt

London, this 16th
of Feb 1652.

Your aſſured Friends
Jo: Armachanus

Wm Hudle
Bruno Ryves
Brian Walton
H. Thorndike
Abraham Wheelock